7. In view of the fact that quick decisions on viability of chronically sick central PSUs are required to be taken it would be necessary to restore the BIFR to its full strength of 14 members as against the 50 percent existing strength at present.

8. The administrative Ministries of the central PSUs and the trade unions concerned should be associated with drawing up of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and if the performance of a PSU fails short of the levels of performance agreed in the MOUs the Chief Executive and other members of the management of the PSU responsible for poor performance should be asked to quit.

9. There should be a greater coordination among the central PSUs and the healthy public sector units must come to the aid of the chronically sick PSUs and as a matter of policy Government shall give purchase preference to these chronically sick units atleast till they are fully rehabilitated.

10. The public sector enterprises particularly those in the core sector which are essential for the operation of the industrial economy should be made more growth-oriented and technically Viable.

Settlement of PF Claims of Burroughs Welcome India Ltd.

752. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners of Bombay and Calcutta have not settled the claims of former employees of Burroughs Welcome India Limited, Bombay;

(b) whether in some cases directions of High Courts for expeditious settlement of Provident Fund dues and payments have been overlooked by the authorities; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take against the company for withholding the PF contribution of its employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Labour Employed in Bidi Manufacturing

753 SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of labour employed by Bidi manufacturers on permanent basis and or contract basis, Statewise;

(b) whether Government have fixed any wage structure for contract bidi labour;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the contract labour in Maharashtra is facing a serious crunch due to higher rate of taxation in comparison with the neighbouring States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) State Governments notify the minimum wages for bidi manufacture. These wages are applicable to contract bidi workers also.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

World Bank assistance on Upgrading I.T. Is and Polytechnics

754. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have started any plan with the assistance of World Bank to provide more facilities and to upgrade the ITIs and Politechnics in the country, particularly, in Bihar and U.P.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) the net amount provided to India from World Bank on this account;

(d) whether Government will open more ITIs (Industrial Training Institutes) and Polytechnics in Bihar and U.P.; and

(e) if so, the places where new Institutes will be set up and the amount provided to the concerned State Governments for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The Plan Scheme under Vocational Training Project and Technician Education Projects are being implemented with World Bank assistance to provide more facilities and to upgrade the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and the Polytechnics in the country, including in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

The Vocational Training Project which became operational in 1989 covers 28 States|U.Ts. Eleven Schemes are proposed to be implemented under the project. These would help to modernise and expand the training facilities. The States are being given grants for implementation of the project on the pattern of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 50:50 funding.

The Technician Education Projects cover 16 States and 2 Union Territories. The main objective of these projects is to enhance the quality of Technician Education in terms of its process and products.

These are sought to be achieved by various Schemes through capacity expansion, quality improvement and efficiency improvement. The amount of World Bank assistance to each State will depend upon the actual expenditure incurred by them on approved project activities. The States claim the reimbursement of their expenditure directly from the World Bank.

Under Vocational Training Project the project cost for Bihar and U.P. is Rs. 20.403 Crores and Rs. 48.934 Crores respectively. Under the Technician Education projects the project cost for Bihar and U.P. is Rs. 88.00 Crores and Rs 200.00 Crores respectively.

(c) For Vocational Training Project, the net credit provided is SDRs 159.70 million (approximately US $ 211 million). For the Technician Education Projects, the net credit provided is SDRs 373.3 million (approximately US $ 517 million).

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir.

Under Vocational Training Project, 8 new ITIs for women will be opened in Bihar at Arrah, Siwan, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Chaibasa, Hazaribagh, Motihari and Gaya. The allocation for these 8 ITIs is Rs. 4.00 Crores. In U.P. 9 new ITIs for Women will be opened at Agra, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Bareilly and Meerut. The allocation for these 9 ITIs is Rs. 4.52 Crores. Under the Technician Education Projects, 4 Polytechnics would be opened in Bihar. The tentative locations are at Rafiganj|Aurangabad, Siwan| Bihiyan (Bhojpur); Latehar|Manoharpur and Bokaro the allocation made under the project for the Polytechnics of Bihar is Rs. 88 Crores. In Uttar Pradesh,